

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9075

UNCLAS PHNOM PENH 1549

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS

SUBJECT: TRI-9 CORPORATION

REF: (A) PHNOM PENH 1472 (B) STATE 13857

REQUEST EMBASSY PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO JAMES ZEIGLER, EXEC VICE PRESIDENT TRI-9 CORPORATION AND GOLDEN EAGLE AIRLINES, 220A JALAN KAYU, SINGAPORE 28. TELEPHONE 803332. QUOTE.

DEAR MR. ZEIGLER, THE AMBASSADOR HAS ASKED THAT I RESPOND TO YOUR CABLE OF JANUARY 17 IN WHICH YOU STATE THAT CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT HAVE BEEN COMMANDEERED FOR TRANSPORT OF TROOPS AND RICE BY THE KHMER GOVERNMENT. WE ARE, OF COURSE, AWARE OF THESE ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE KHMER GOVERNMENT, WHICH ARE NOT UNUSUAL ACTIONS TAKEN BY GOVERNMENTS IN TIME OF WAR. YOUR MESSAGE WAS THE FIRST INDICATION RECEIVED THAT ANY AIRLINE WAS PLANNING SHUTDOWN BY FEBRUARY 1, 1975, FOR REASONS OF NON-PAYMENT BY KHMER GOVERNMENT FOR TRANSPORT OF RICE AND TROOPS.

QUOTE. FOR YOUR INFORMATION THE EMBASBY IS PERSONALLY REPRESENTED AT KHMER GOVERNMENT WORKING COMMITTEES FOR RICE AND AVAIAION FUEL WHICH CONVENE ONCE A WEEK. THE LATTEC IS ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL AIRLINES, INCLUDING GOLDEN EAGLE, WHICH ARE THUS OFFERED AN OPPORTUNITY TO

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VOICE COMPLAINTS AND/OR GRIEVANCES. THUS FAR NO AIRLINE

HAS REPORTED A PROBLEM IN OBTAINING PAYMENT FOR TROOP
MOVEMENTS.

QUOTE. RICE AIR TRANSPORT FOR ACCOUNT OF GOVERNMENT HAS
NEVER BEEN GRATIS. THERE WAS A PROBLEM OF DALAYED PAYMENT
WHICH WAS SATISFACTORILY SOLVED LAST MONTH WITH THE INTRO-
DUCTION, AT EMBASSY URGING, OF AN ACCELERATED PROCEDURE.
AIRLINES INVOLVED IN RICE AIRLIFTS REPORT THE PAYMENTS
FOR RICE AIRLIFTS ARE NOW EFFECTED BY THE GKR WITHIN TWO
TO THREE WEEKS FOLLOWING SUBMISSION OF CERTIFIED INVOICES.
AS YOU KNOW AIRLINES RECEIVE 140 PERCENT ABOVE OFFICIAL
RATES FOR THE ROUND TROP ON RICE AIRLIFTS.

QUOTE. BE ASSURED THIS EMBASSY HAS ALWAYS BEEN AND WILL
CONTINUE TO BE FULLY RECEPTIVE TO LEGITIMATE COMPLAINTS ON
BEHALF OF AMERICAN INTERESTS.

QUOTE. FOR YOUR FURTHER INFORMATION THIS MESSAGE IS BEING
REPEATEDNTO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE. SINCERELY YOURS,
THOMAS F. OLMSTED, ECONOMIC COUNSELOR. UNQUOTE.
DEAN

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